



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park News Release

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A War for Freedom: Freedom Fighters on Many Fronts

Fort Oglethorpe, GA: In commemoration of African American history month, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park invites the public to attend a special talk at the Chickamauga Visitor Center on Saturday, February 23rd, 2013 at 2 P.M.

Join Park Ranger Lee White for a special talk on the important roles that African Americans played in seizing their freedom, then struggling to emancipate their homeland in the first steps of the long road toward civil rights and equality.

The desire for and promise of freedom were great for African Americans. With Chattanooga falling into Union hands, it became a beacon of freedom for thousands of enslaved men and women who now saw an opportunity to escape the harsh reality of slavery. Now, with freedom and having a choice in their lives, many enlisted to be soldiers in the United States Colored Troops to fight to destroy slavery. Others took the opportunity to support the Union army in other ways, all of which gave them hope, dignity, confidence and pride.

For more information about programs at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, contact the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center at (706) 866-9241, the Lookout Mountain Battlefield Visitor Center at (423) 821-7786, or visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/chch.

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About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 395 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.